THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2249. *Wednesday, Feb.* 25, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

WEBER's beautiful Opera of *Oberon*, was last night performed at this Theatre, when that accomplished singer, Miss Paton, resumed her station as prima donna, after an absence of two years from these boards. She was greeted on her entrée with enthusiastic cheers, which she acknowledged in the most graceful manner. Although her form is somewhat attenuated, we were delighted to perceive she seemed in good health and spirits. She gave the music of *Reiza* with a sweetness and clearness of tone, and with a brilliancy of execution, which no other singer who has succeeded her in the part ever approached; nor do we recollect ever to have heard Miss Paton herself do more justice to the inspired strains of the lamented Weber; she absolutely wantoned in melody. Her science and perfect intonation were conspicuous in the recitative, 'Haste gallant Knight,' and in the following air, 'Yes my lord! my joy!' which were sung in a style of surpassing excellence. Madame Vestris appeared inspired by the presence of Miss Paton, to fresh exertion, and both acted and sang with great effect. Mr. Wood, for the first time, undertook the part of *Sir Huon*, and, by the effort, has added much to his reputation: in the grand air, 'O! 'tis a glorious sight to see,' though he failed to produce that powerful effect which Braham's magnificent voice and science excited, he gave 'Mourn ye Maidens of Palestine,' part of the air, with immense taste and sweetness. The Overture was encored, as was the beautiful Quartetto in the second act. The Opera was announced for repetition on Friday, amidst shouts of applause. The new Drama of *The Battle of Pultawa*, was acted for the second time, and was warmly applauded. Miss Goward has a pretty song, which she sang in a very lively manner, and, like Miss Love, introduced the *pas russe*.—It was the fullest house we have seen this season. A Mr. Pemberton is engaged at this house, and will appear on Monday next as *Virginius.*

Rossini's new Opera will be produced next week, in which Mr. H. Phillips and Miss Paton will sustain the principal parts.

Drury Lane Theatre.

Peter the Great: or, The Battle of Pultawa, was repeated last night, to a crowded house: this piece bids fair to rival in popularity *Charles the Twelfth*, which has been already acted thirty nights. It seems we are indebted to the French for the plot, and principal incidents of this piece, as well as for that brought out at Covent Garden, on Monday night. We are sorry our dramatic writers, no longer aspire to any higher reputation, than that of literary coblers, for such, in fact, are the adapters of the numerous pieces of Parisian author-

ship which are now brought out at our two great Theatres. Kenney, and Morton, might, without vanity, have depended on the resources of their own minds. *The Little Captive*, and *The Portrait of Cervantes*, were the afterpieces.

SURREY.—This evening, Mr. Elliston will take his Benefit; on which occasion, he will appear as *Tangent*, in *The Way to Get Married*.—A new piece, called *Mr. Sims!* and a Pantomic Sketch, entitled *The Poet's Last Shilling*, will also be performed.

There has recently been a sharp correspondence between a popular dramatic writer and the stage-manager of one of the patent Theatres, occasioned by a sort of play-writing partnership, which the former has entered into with a brother poet, in the writing, constructing, and arrangement of *Peter the Great*, for Drury Lane Theatre. The first epistle from the manager to the author, his old friend, was neither *sublime nor beautiful*, but the retort, or answer, proved *invincible*;—we rejoice at the fact, that the fierce combatants are again friends.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

Monday—I shall be found seated at the *Diorama*, in the Regent's Park, anxiously admiring the two new Views, the charming Village of Unterseen, and the Cloisters of St. Wandrille—quite bewitching!

On Tuesday, I wander through the various Departments of that popular and attractive Lounge, the Royal Bazaar, 73, Oxford Street, and view The British Diorama, The Descent from the Cross, and the French Child, with the singular inscription of '*Napoleon, Empereur*,' in its eyes.

On Wednesday, I step into the Horse Bazaar, Baker Street—inspect the magnificent Exhibition of Musical and Mechanical Automa—Musical Lady, Juvenile Artist, Rope Dancer, Magician, Walking Figure, a magnificent Vase, made by order of Napoleon, Birds, &c. In the afternoon, I qualify Mrs. P.'s discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found between 1 and 4 o'clock, at *The Apollonicon*; in St. Martin's Lane.

On Thursday, I shall be found, with my Spectacles off, admiring the truly grand display of the Wonders of Nature—I don't mean the Naturals called Fops, but the Microscopic Wonders, exhibited by Mr. Carpenter, the Optician, in Regent Street. In the evening, I drop into Covent Garden Theatre—Morton's *Sublime and Beautiful* attracts great houses—Miss Hughes's singing delightful—shall certainly pay my friend, Alexander Lee, a visit, and buy 'The Hunter's Signal Horn,' and 'The Lover's Chains.'

On Friday, I shall look in on Mr. Finn, in Regent Street, at his *Fancy Glass-working Exhibition*—an ingenious pretty Workshop. Afterwards, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

In the evening, went to Drury—saw Planche's successful Drama, 'Charles the Twelfth'—heard Miss Love sing her beautiful song, 'Rise gentle Moon'—most enthusiastically encored—elegant composition, by John Barnett—will be as popular as 'The Light Guitar.'

On Saturday—All my country cousins, with Mrs. Pry, are waiting to accompany me to that long-established Magazine of Novelties, THE WESTERN EXCHANGE BAZAAR, Old Bond Street—fashion combined with usefulness—elegance with economy—but I always pop in at private door, 14, Burlington Arcade.

Not to be out of fashion, I drop in at THE CIGAR DIVAN, *King Street, Covent Garden*;—with first-rate Cigars, excellent Coffee, the Magazines, Newspapers, &c. (for, as Mingle says, "there are lots!") I whirl away an hour—get my box filled with prime snuff, and then for the Theatres—but I intrude, beg pardon

Your's, PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Farquhar's celebrated Comedy of The

Recruiting Officer.

Mr Balance, Mr BARTLEY,
Mr Scale, Mr IRWIN, Mr Scruple, Mr ATKINS,
Mr Worthy, Mr DURUSET,
Captain Plume.....Mr C. KEMBLE,
Captain Brazen, Mr GREEN,
Serjeant Kite.....Mr WRENCH,
Bullock, Mr J. REEVE,
Thomas Appletree.....Mr MEADOWS,
Coster Pearman, Mr KEELEY,
Constable, Mr FULLER. Steward, Mr HEATH,
Welch Collier, Mr TURNOUR,
William, Mr J. COOPER, James, Mr F. SUTTON.
Melinda, Miss CHESTER,
Sylvia.....Mrs CHATTERLEY,
Lucy, Mrs GIBBS, Rose, Miss NELSON.

After which, the Divertissement of

Offerings to Venus.

Principal Dancers.
Mr D'ALBERT, Mrs BEDFORD, Mrs VEDY, Miss THOMASIN,
Miss EGAN, Miss GRIFFITHS, Miss VIALS, &c.

After which, the Burletta of

MIDAS.

IMMORTALS.—Apollo, Madame VESTRIS,
Who will introduce '*The Light Guitar.*'
Jupiter, Mr J. ISAACS, Bacchus, Mr MILLER,
Pan, Mr FULLER, Mars, Mr SHEGOG,
Mercury, Mr HEATH, Ganymede, Mr F. SUTTON,
Vulcan, Mr NORRIS, Minerva, Mrs WILSON,
Juno, Mrs NEWCOMBE. Venus, Mrs BROWN,
MORTALS—Midas, Mr J. REEVE,
Damætas, Mr HENRY, Shepherd, Mr J. COOPER,
Silenus, Mr J. RUSSELL.
Daphne, Miss CAWSE, Nysa, Miss H. CAWSE,
Mysis, Miss GOWARD.

To-morrow, The Sublime and Beautiful, The Invincibles, &c.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Musical Drama of

THE SLAVE.

Governor of Surinam.....Mr GATTIE,
Col. Lindenburg, Mr YOUNGE, Clifton, Mr BLAND,
Captain Malcolm, Mr BRAHAM,
Who will introduce '*Kelvin Grove*,'—'*A man's a man for a' that*,'—
'*Stand to your Guns, my Hearts of Oak*.'
And the Duet, with Miss Love, '*A Wreath of sweet Roses*.'
Mathew Sharpset, Mr JONES,
Sam Sharpset, Mr WEBSTER, Jailor, Mr HUGHES,
Fogrum, Mr HARLEY, Provost, Mr FENTON,
Gambia, (the Slave) Mr COOPER,
Somerdyke, Mr YARNOLD, Officer, Mr VINING.
Miss Von Frump, Mrs C. JONES,
Mrs Lindenburg.....Mrs KNIGHT,
Stella Clifton, Miss PINCOTT,
Zelinda, (2nd time) Miss LOVE, who will sing
My sweet Guitar,' '*The Mocking Bird*,' and '*Sons of Freedom*.'

To conclude with the Operatic Romance of

DER FREISCHUTZ.

Ottocar, the Prince, Mr YARNOLD,
Bernhard, Mr THOMPSON, Adolph, Mr T. COOKE,
Caspar, Mr BEDFORD, Kilian, Mr WEBSTER,
Hermit, Mr SHERIFF, Zamiel, Mr HOWELL,
Foresters, Mr Honner, Mr Nelson, Master Wieland.
Linda, Mrs GEESIN, Rose, Miss A. TREE.
Bridesmaids, Misses Gould, Willmott, Somerville, &c.

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